

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE  
Revised

House Bill 874 (Delegate Eckardt. *et al.*)

Economic Matters

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**Caroline County - Alcoholic Beverages Licensees - Fingerprinting and Criminal Records Check**

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This bill requires applicants for new licenses and for transfers of existing licenses to be fingerprinted and to submit to a criminal records check through the Criminal Justice Information System. The fingerprints will be forwarded to the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services for transmittal to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a national criminal records check. The criminal records may only be made available to the Caroline County Board of License Commissioners and must otherwise be kept in a sealed envelope. To cover the cost of fingerprinting and the criminal records checks, the Board of License Commissioners will charge a fee to the applicant. The board may also require that applicants for license renewals be subjected to records checks and fingerprinting.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The total maximum cost of criminal history records checks and fingerprinting is \$52, which includes State and national background checks. This cost would be borne by applicants. Assuming a minimal number of applicants, State expenditures would not be affected.

**Local Effect:** Caroline County would collect from license applicants the necessary fees for criminal records checks and fingerprinting. The fees would enable the county to recover the costs associated with these activities.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** License applicants are not required to be fingerprinted or to have a criminal

records check performed.

**Local Fiscal Effect:** Caroline County advises that they would charge applicants for the costs associated with records checks and for fingerprinting performed by the county's sheriff. There are approximately 20 applicants per year for new licenses or transfers of existing licenses and approximately 100 current license holders, each of whom must renew their license annually.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Caroline County, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 2, 2000  
cm/jr Revised - House Third Reader - March 22, 2000

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